



MEETING SUMMARY



I-94 North South Corridor Technical Advisory Committee - SE Freeways

DATE: January 25, 2006

FROM: Sue Dornbach

ATTENDEES:	Bob Gutierrez/WisDOT	Tom Lebah/Village of Caldonia
	John Shaw/WisDOT	Rick Jones/City of Racine
	Daniel Yeh/WisDOT	Andy Buehler/Kenosha County
	Carrie Cooper/WisDOT	Jean Werbie/Village of Pleasant Prairie
	Bill Mohr/WisDOT	Mike Pollocoff/Village of Pleasant Prairie
	Mike Paddock/MTP	Ron Bursek/City of Kenosha
	Brian Swenson/MTP	Mike Lemens/City of Kenosha
	Charlie Webb/MTP	Jeff Katz/Racine County
	David Scott/FHWA	Jeff Polenske/City of Milwaukee
	Rick Yany/IDOT	Mathew Sullivan/City of Oak Creek
	Pete Harmet/IDOT	

The first Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) SE Freeways meeting was held on January 25th at 10:00 am in the Barstow Conference Room 314.

1. Welcome and introductions

Bob Gutierrez welcomed the group and introductions were made.

The corridor introduction was presented by Bob.

2. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) /Role

Mike Paddock informed the group on what the Technical Advisory Committees role will be. The purpose for the group is to:

- Engage officials and agencies on the key aspects of the study
- The group will be considered liaisons to their communities
- Attend all meetings or send an alternate to stay connected
- Support the process
- Conduct quarterly Advisory Committee meetings
- Southeast Freeway Team members can meet one on one, or more often with committee members if there is a need.

Questions/Answers

1. What year was the record of decision? The service interchanges in Racine and Kenosha Counties were cleared in 1996 with an Environmental Assessment (EA) Report. We are working on updating the EA to reflect changes over the past 10 years. We will be conducting an EIS for improvements in Milwaukee County and evaluating

adding a 4th lane in Racine, Kenosha and Milwaukee counties. It will take 30 months to reach a record of decision (ROD) on the rest of the corridor.

2. Is there a range of options? Yes, the options are:

- No build – replace in-kind
- Reconstruction with limited improvements and stay within existing R/W
- Complete modernization of facility bringing it up to safety standards – some R/W needs
- Full reconstruction with modern improvements and capacity expansion – R/W needs
- Mix and match – will get feedback, won't preclude now
- Phased construction likely

3. Study Overview

Brian Swenson stated that the SEWRPC study evaluated expanding the corridor by 1 extra lane. A WisDOT study will additionally assess it to see if an additional lane is necessary. We hope to have answers this spring after their evaluation.

Projected land use was discussed. The SE Freeway Team needs to be kept up to date on where any land use, growth or development are in all 3 counties, the cities and villages.

John Shaw stated that we met with local officials in the fall of 2005 to discuss long term land use development in the corridor. That information was compiled into drawings and maps in one consistent set of information. Traffic will be projected ahead to 2035.

Copies of the maps could be given to the advisory committee. John Shaw will print out the stats, in 5 year blocks, from the GIS maps in table format prior to the next meeting. He also stated that he could share the pdf's of the maps which could be emailed to the group. He stated that we are also looking at the Drexel Avenue overpass at I-94 for a possible new interchange.

4. Engineering Information

A report is being compiled on the existing conditions.

We will need crash data from the local law enforcement agencies to compare against statewide and national rates.

We are presently developing a traffic model for existing and future traffic and we will share results with this committee when it is complete.

Each community has different stormwater treatment criteria. The SE Freeway Team will review all community requirements and will develop a recommended set of quantity/quality criteria for the DNR.

The SE Freeway Team will be developing a corridor wide approach for the project roadway. We are looking at consistent corridor features including: bridge structures, retaining walls, stormwater, aesthetics, producing construction staging by doing segments of freeway and interchanges at a time, etc.

Some of the service interchange plans will be ready for the 2009 construction season.

Bob Gutierrez gave the ACTT workshop recommendation PowerPoint presentation, pointing out the new and interesting techniques on the project.

Questions and Answers

Will the frontage roads be taken over by the DOT for maintenance during construction?
Yes they will.

5. Environmental Information

Charlie Webb stated that FHWA will be the lead Federal Agency. The draft EIS is scheduled for completion in October 2007 and a Public Hearing will be held shortly thereafter. The Final EIS will be complete in early 2008 and the Record of Decision will be done in March of 2008.

We are updating the 1996 EA on the service interchanges in Racine and Kenosha counties.

A meeting was held on Monday, January 23 with the agencies to go over the information and schedule.

We will be gathering the stormwater regulations from the communities over the next few week.

The wetland delineations in the field are being done now and will be complete within the next couple of months.

We are in the process of collecting data for the hazardous materials survey and the architectural/historical information.

A wetland mitigation site search has been started for all areas along the corridor.

Question and answer

Are you planning on doing the study to cover 1 mile east and west of the freeway in Kenosha? Yes, or further out if we are aware of a large development in progress.

How are you handling stormwater? The first step is to check on how each community handles their stormwater. We are also looking at SEWRPC's recommendations. We are not trying to set policies for each community, we are looking for their input. We do plan on creating a corridor wide stormwater plan within IDOT R/W.

6. Public Involvement Activities

Brian Swenson went over the upcoming Community Workshops and dates which begin next Tuesday and will be held at each facility from 4:00 to 8:00 pm.

January 31, 2006 – CATI facility in Racine County

February 2, 2006 – Kenosha County Center in Kenosha County

February 7, 2006 – West Middle School in Oak Creek

February 8, 2006 – Ronald Reagan Preparatory High School in Milwaukee

The type of workshops we are doing are not standard but are being conducted as a result of misinformation that is coming out of the Milwaukee area to the residences along the corridor. We felt it was important to talk to the people who live in the communities in the corridor earlier in the study process.

Our goal at the workshops is to set up tables with plans in the corridor and let the people who come see if any of their ideas would work or could be implemented into the design.

A Public Information Meeting will be held in May or June and we plan on taking the information from the people in the communities that we gather from the workshops and show them how their ideas would work or not work.

We are in the process of developing a public information plan.

The TAC group was encouraged to come out and talk with the Southeast Freeway Team.

Questions and Answers

Did you send out any direct information to the public informing them of these workshops? Newsletters with the workshop information were sent out to residences and businesses up to ½ mile on either side of the corridor.

7. Frontage Roads

Bob Gutierrez stated that the DOT's policy on frontage roads carries an emphasis on incident management, homeland security and access issues. The DOT Planning group is evaluating this as a statewide issue, and they can share their decisions when they are done. The DOT feels it is important to keep frontage roads, and we are looking at how this is approached by the communities. We are looking for suggestions from community planning departments.

Brian Swenson said that now is the right time to answer frontage road question on jurisdiction, location and primary use of the frontage roads. We need dialogue from communities to do this.

8. Short-term schedule

Over the next 3 to 4 months we will be focusing on the following:

- Environmental data gathering
- Analyzing the existing conditions, crashes etc.
- Create letters to the public stating why we will be out in their communities. We will also knock on their doors to let them know when we enter their property.
- Work on stormwater issues
- Secondary cumulative impacts – are phase based. The Southeast Freeway Team is dedicated to looking at the specifics. Will pull together an interest group in 6 months.

9. Comments from TAC Members

Mike Paddock stated that we would like feedback on this meeting from the TAC members.

TAC subcommittees

At our next TAC meeting we will meet as a group to go over the main topics then breakout by geographic areas (Counties) to discuss any specific issues.

John Shaw stated that he will try to email the GIS traffic.

10. Wrap up and Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 3rd, 9:00 am in the Lakeview Studio room at the following Location:

Lakeview RecPlex
9900 Terwall Terrace
Pleasant Prairie

Attendance list from the January 25, 2006 meeting:

